

# NO ONE CAN STATE

The Ruin by High Water Almost Incalculable

## MAD WRECK OF THE FLOODS

Valuable Property Swept Away, Little Hope for Crops, and Some Loss of Life Reported.

St. Louis, May 16.—A reporter took a trip down the river for about 25 miles Sunday. The situation viewed from the pilot house of the steamer is one which at first glance is seen to be most serious. Thousands of acres on which a week ago the waving wheat was growing are now vast lakes, whose surface is broken by floating pieces of furniture, dwellings, and here and there the body of a cow or hog. From this it is seen that the water is not only high but is also very muddy. The water is coming with such force that it cuts into the banks as if the water were sent from a hydraulic ram and the result is that many valuable farms have been almost destroyed, while the crops of corn and wheat are in danger of being left in the water. The river is coming with such force that it cuts into the banks as if the water were sent from a hydraulic ram and the result is that many valuable farms have been almost destroyed, while the crops of corn and wheat are in danger of being left in the water.

On the Illinois side, in 3 feet under water. Near here on the Missouri side in the vicinity of the White House is the St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern railway track. The embankment, which is built upon a bluff, is being undermined by the water. It is estimated that 20 St. Louis potters were drowned early Sunday morning. At the Harrison river, but their names could not be learned. At Foster's island 4,000 acres of fine farming land is covered with 3 feet of water and all hope of raising a crop this year has been given up.

On Mullanphy island, 25 miles north of St. Louis in the Missouri river, fourteen women and children were rescued from a watery grave Sunday morning by a volunteer corps of St. Louis citizens. Mad the rescuers been two hours later they would have found only dead bodies, as the water was rapidly encroaching on the small section of land on which the party stood shivering and half naked, and here they had been for hours, after being driven from their homes by the flood.

Reporters stationed on the Merchants' bridge in North St. Louis have seen several dead bodies floating in the water. Most of them have evidently come a long distance. It is now a common sight to see small houses and various articles of furniture floating past. All railway traffic over the Blue bridge has been abandoned owing to the flooded tracks in Illinois. The Burlington, Allen and other roads run passenger trains in over the Merchants' bridge.

Madison, Mo., May 16.—The Madison levee has broken and all that remains of this town from being flooded in the Chicago & Alton embankment. The water is within two feet of the top of this, and if it gives way, which is threatened to do in several places, the town will be flooded and very serious damage done. The levee guarding the northwest corner is threatening to give way at any moment and danger of a flood in that direction is also imminent.

Camden, Ill., May 16.—The Illinois river is still rising at the rate of one-half inch an hour and great damage is being done to meadows and growing wheat in the western portion of this county. The Hartwell, Keach and Kealey levees broke Saturday and there are now about 3,000 acres of wheat and meadows under water in this county. Large herds of cattle have been driven to the hills and families are moving out.

Camden, Ill., May 16.—The embankment of the Chicago & Alton Railroad Company, about 200 feet long, has given way and the town is flooded to the depth of several feet. No lives have been lost, but a large amount of damage has been done.

Crops Will Be Ruined. Whitesburg, Ill., May 16.—The Illinois river extends from 100 ft. to 150 ft. a distance of 45 miles. The area of overflowed land in this county alone is 75,000 acres, half of which has been in cultivation for years. No crops of any kind will be produced on this land this season.

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# HE DID NOT THINK

And a Frightful Disaster Results in Ohio

## FORGETFULNESS THE CAUSE

Two Trains Collide Near Cleveland and Five Persons Lose Their Lives—Several Others Hurt.

CLEVELAND, May 16.—Station Agent Smith, who officiates for the Big Four railroad at Cleveland, O., is a man of this city, made a mistake Sunday morning. He forgot a change that had been made in the running time of a local passenger train, and the result was that five men were killed, two fatally injured and six wounded more or less seriously.

The remote cause of the accident was a change of time which took effect Sunday. The Sunday morning Aurora (Ind.) accommodation has been due here at 9:15 and the change brought it to Cleveland at 8:15, one hour earlier. The freight train crew who left Cleveland with a locomotive and twenty or more freight cars at 7 o'clock Sunday morning had been notified of the change of time and so had Station Agent Smith, of Cleveland. Just before the freight train reached Cleveland Edwards whistled for orders from the station. The block signal system is in use on the road, and Agent Smith, getting for the time being the instructions he had received regarding the change in the time of the Aurora accommodation, adjusted the block signal so as to notify the freight engineer that the track, which is a single one at that point, was clear for the train to the next station west. The freight was running at least 30 miles an hour, and Engineer Edwards, seeing the signal, kept dashing on.

Remembered When It Was Too Late. Just as the engine was passing the station Smith remembered the change of time. It was too late. He changed the signal, but the freight train had plunged by. It proceeded only 500 feet beyond the station. The Aurora accommodation was coming east and the two engines crashed into each other, producing a frightful wreck. The passenger and freight cars jammed into one another in the wildest confusion. The two engines were so badly wrecked as to be permanently disabled. Both the steam from the boilers escaped and added to the terror endured by the wounded and dying.

Local physicians were summoned and as soon as word reached this city wrecking parties were sent out with surgeons. The dead were taken from the debris and all the bodies found to have been killed instantly. The bodies are still at Cleveland awaiting the arrival of relatives. Schrader and Tarrill were given every possible attention by the railroad officials and engineers, but the latter assert that neither can live.

Station Agent Smith admits having forgotten the change of time and says that he had remembered one minute sooner than he did the accident would not have happened. It is probable that he would be arrested and charged with manslaughter. Fortunately there were few passengers on the accommodation train.

A Remarkable Escape. "Homer" Kead, a freight brakeman, had just reached the top of a car when the collision occurred. The crash was so terrible that he was thrown over a telegraph wire 40 feet into a stream of water, which saved his life. He thinks there are at least three trunks under the wreck of the freight train. The property loss will be \$100,000. Both engines are complete wrecks, and the coaches of the express train are ruined. It is said much valuable mail and express matter is lost. A dozen freight cars loaded with costly goods are a total loss.

One Killed; Several Hurt. HASTINGS, Mo., May 16.—A train on the Norfolk & Western road was wrecked 11 miles from here at 1 o'clock Sunday morning. It was in charge of Conductor William Hays and was made up of a sleeper, two coaches, a smoker and a baggage car. Just as the engine reached the wreck it jumped the track and dashed into freight cars on a siding. Conductor Hays was on the platform of a car and was hurled headlong 50 feet against the rails and instantly killed. John Hauke, a passenger hailing from Lewistown, Pa., was dug out of the wreck with a broken leg and suffering internal injuries. He will die. His father was also badly hurt. Another passenger, supposed to be a drummer, was taken to a drying condition. A card in his pocket bore the name John Bayle, Brooklyn, N. Y. C. N. Wenger, traveling passenger agent, and William Ellinger, of West Fairview, Pa., were also severely hurt.

Wrecked Scores of Babies. BERLIN, May 16.—An aged nurse named Meyer, residing at Beckenhofen, a suburb of Frankfurt, has been arrested charged with causing the death of fifty-eight infants. The alleged crimes extend over a considerable length of time, and it is reported that several wealthy ladies of Frankfurt are to be accused of complicity in the baby farmer's criminal operations.

Wreck in Chicago. CHICAGO, May 16.—Denis Leahy & Co., wholesale dealers in woolen cloths at 161 Fifth avenue, have failed and the stock of merchandise is now in the hands of the sheriff. The liabilities and assets are estimated at \$100,000.

Getting a Pension for Mrs. Davis. NEW ORLEANS, May 16.—Gen. J. R. Gordon, president of the United Confederate Veterans, has appointed a committee of thirteen, one from each of the southern states, to present a memorial and petition before the legislature of each of these states asking them to vote a life pension to the widow of Jefferson Davis. Joseph W. Mercer, of Kansas City, is the Missouri representative.

Deaths of Nurses Fero. NEW YORK, May 16.—Barn Fero, the Italian minister to the United States, arrived here Sunday per steamer La Guineana. Barn Fero expressed his pleasure at returning to the United States, where, he said, he had formed many good friends. He has always worked, he said, and would continue to work to strengthen the friendly relations existing between the two countries.

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# HOSTS OF MEN IDLE

A Great Lockout Inaugurated in New York

## AFFECTING THE QUARRY MEN

And Stonecutters—The Men to Resort to Measures for Defense from Imported Non-Union Laborers.

New York, May 16.—The lockout of granite cutters throughout the New England states has been declared, throwing from 20,000 to 30,000 men out of employment. At the same time a number of strikes were ordered in sympathy with the stonecutters, and it is estimated that fully 50,000 men employed in the quarrying and stone building works are now out. The immediate effect in this city was to bring to a standstill all building operations, with a menace of still more far-reaching effect. Many other trades will undoubtedly be influenced if the struggle is protracted. The men say they have the means to continue the contest indefinitely and believe that the urgency of contracts will compel the employers to surrender.

Commissioner of Public Works Gilroy, upon whom the men rely to bring the employers to terms by insisting that the paving contracts now under way shall be filled, said that he saw no way in which to bring about an understanding between the men and the employers. He declared that he could make no calculation as to when the work would be resumed. Pickets of granite cutters will watch every boatload of stone that is brought to the city and in every case where it comes from the quarry the owner of which is a member of the Granite Manufacturers' association, workmen will be warned not to handle the stone.

## TELEGRAPHIC BREVITIES.

Owen Young, of Iliopolis, Ill., died Sunday from the effect of a kick by a horse.

Fire at Newton, Kan., destroyed W. Pherson's livery stable and eleven horses.

The annual reunion and banquet of the Thirtieth Illinois volunteers takes place at Dixon, Ill., May 24.

Ex-Speaker Keifer announces himself as a candidate for the congressional nomination in the Seventh Ohio district.

Harry Paul, a coal miner who earns one dollar a day at Wilkesbarre, Pa., is heir to \$20,000, left by his father in Prussia.

In Egypt a band of dervishes made a descent upon Serra and massacred thirty-four natives who fell into their hands.

The Illinois State Medical society meets in Vandalia May 17. The army and navy surgeons will meet there on the 19th.

Barns at the Edgewater stock farm near Cynthia, Ky., were destroyed by fire, and five valuable horses perished in the flames.

It is said the wealthy cattlemen of Wyoming are collecting another army of roughs to send against the rustlers and small farmers of Johnson county.

The Mormon-Gentile wing of the democratic party in convention at Ogden elected two delegates to the democratic national convention in Chicago.

Some time since John Goodwin, of Tracy, Cal., killed a man named Steele. Friday T. W. Steele, a brother of the other, shot Goodwin, killing him instantly.

The territorial convention of the people's party of Oklahoma was held at Guthrie and delegates were chosen to the national convention who favor James B. Weaver for president.

Capt. Findlay, commander of the ship that carried relief to famine-stricken Russians, who was presented by the czar and carries with a gold tea service, has given the service to the company that owns the ship.

## WOMEN DISTRUST MEN.

Here is One Who Had Her Doubts About the Conductor.

The utter lack of confidence that woman has in man was illustrated in a Penn avenue cable car the other day. A lady boarded the car at Sixth street.

"Let me off at Twenty-eighth, please," she said to the conductor.

From Sixth to Twelfth streets she was engaged in getting seated and paying her fare. "Don't forget to let me off at Twenty-eighth, will you?" she said, as the conductor took her nickel, and he said he wouldn't.

At Twelfth she collected her parcels and stared at the conductor to remind him of his promise.

At Twenty-first she dropped a package which another passenger stepped on, then apologized.

At Twenty-second she looked out of the window to see if the conductor had called the right number.

At Twenty-third she moved to a seat nearer the door.

From Twenty-third to Twenty-fifth she was engaged in mentally criticizing the spring suit of the lady opposite her.

At Twenty-sixth she nodded at the conductor.

At Twenty-seventh she stood up and got ready to leave the car.

As it stopped at Twenty-eighth street, she stepped from the platform and with a sigh of relief exclaimed: "Those horrid conductors can't be trusted to remember anything."

The vagaries of South American justice are aptly illustrated by a story that comes from the Panama Star and Herald. Two prisoners were imprisoned in a mud wall at Colon. The Guayaquil court, being unable to fix the relative guilt of either, passed the following sentence: "They shall draw lots, and the one favored by chance shall not be executed and shall have his sentence commuted to imprisonment for life, which sentence he shall serve in the prison of the capital of the republic, after being present at the execution of the other murderer."

## Food for Battle Hunters.

Gov. Russell observes the custom established by former chief magistrates of Massachusetts of using a new quill pen to sign each legislative bill which meets with his approval. These quills are used only once and are then eagerly sought for by relic hunters in Boston, as were the clay pipes which Carlyle was accustomed to lay outside his door after once smoking them.

# A NEW TRIUMPH!

## PROGRESSION

The spirit that permeates every fiber of our business. Cheery news for the Ladies.

Today marks a new and important epoch in

# SPRING & COMPANY'S

Long and Successful Business Career.

Ready-made Wrappers and Tea Gowns come to join the miniature world of fashions. They are here and await the honor of an introduction to the ladies of Grand Rapids. Not like the ready-made dresses you may have seen, but gowns with the poetry of grace in every line and curve—made in all popular materials, trimmed with silks and ribbons in harmonious shades and cut in the most charming styles. Though we have many, but 2 styles are shown here.



Handsome gingham wrapper made in pretty stripes, with collar, yoke and cuffs made of chambray to match, full pleated skirt.

Set aside an hour or two this week to call and see the peerless gathering of ladies' made-up Wrappers and Tea Gowns.

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There is enthusiasm at our silk counters, and there should be. No reasonable demand can be made on our Dress Silks that the stock will not satisfy. Absurdity only might be disappointed, and that explains why our silk counter space is often insufficient to accommodate the throngs of buyers. A casual review shows endless varieties for full dress evening wear. Two score of designs in India Silks; some with a dozen colorings to a design. Then, too, there are novelties of every proper sort. The prices go from 50c. to several dollars. As a whole there is absolute completeness in detail, just the shade, quality or sort for every want.

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